

Message

From: Dunn, Cindy Adams [cindydunn@pa.gov]
Sent: 10/8/2019 11:42:30 PM
To: Edward, James [edward.james@epa.gov]; Aunkst, Dana [aunkst.dana@epa.gov]
CC: McDonnell, Patrick [pmcdonnell@pa.gov]; Keefer, Matthew [makeefer@pa.gov]; Hindin, Rebecca [Hindin.Rebecca@epa.gov]; Edward, James [edward.james@epa.gov]; Whitcomb, Jill [jjiwhitcomb@pa.gov]
Subject: Re: [External] RE: EPA Funding for Buffers

Thank you for the update. I'll get back to you with a contact

Cindy

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From: Edward, James <edward.james@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 8, 2019 1:46 PM
To: Dunn, Cindy Adams; Aunkst, Dana
Cc: McDonnell, Patrick; Keefer, Matthew; Hindin, Rebecca; Edward, James; Whitcomb, Jill
Subject: [External] RE: EPA Funding for Buffers

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Hi Cindy:

EPA Region 3 has made a decision regarding your request to provide DCNR with CBP funding for forest buffer implementation work using FY 2019 EPA funds. Our understanding is that your budgetary and legislative constraints limit DCNR's ability to receive these funds directly from EPA for this fiscal year but that DEP is willing to sub-award those funds to your agency for this year. EPA is willing to use this approach for this year only. However, Beginning next year DCNR needs to make sure that they have adequate spending authority for this buffer work so that it can accept any available funds directly from EPA. We are also pleased to hear that this funding will be used to plant buffers in Spring and Fall of 2020 and that you can scale up implementation quickly and spend down the funds expeditiously as well.

We are still working on DEP's draft CBIG workplan to determine the precise funding amount that DCNR will be receiving for this work. Lucinda Power, EPA Project Officer and Rebecca Hindin, CBPO Grants Team Leader, will be reaching out to DEP and DCNR staff in the next couple of days to help facilitate this process. Please provide us with the name of any DCNR grants/budget staff that they can contact to help with this.

We are pleased to have the opportunity to work directly with DCNR on this important work. Please let me know if you have any questions as we move forward.

Thanks...Jim

#BayStrong

Jim Edward
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410-267-5705

From: Dunn, Cindy Adams [mailto:cindydunn@pa.gov]

Sent: Monday, September 30, 2019 10:00 AM

To: Aunkst, Dana <aunkst.dana@epa.gov>; Edward, James <edward.james@epa.gov>

Cc: McDonnell, Patrick <pmcdonnell@pa.gov>; Keefer, Matthew <makeefer@pa.gov>; Kasi, Veronica <vbkasi@pa.gov>

Subject: EPA Funding for Buffers

Dear Dana and Jim,

Thank you for your willingness to invest EPA resources into Pennsylvania for riparian forest buffers. As you're aware, Pennsylvania is relying on 86,000 acres of forest buffers as a critical part of its Phase 3 WIP, and we're hoping you consider some flexibility as we work toward garnering the resources needed for this task. DCNR and our partners are committed to making this happen.

I understand there is a current opportunity for EPA to provide funding directly to DCNR to support buffer implementation. However, due to our budgetary and legislative constraints, the only mechanism for us to receive the funds this current fiscal year is through a sub-award from DEP. DEP has legislative spending authority and they are willing to sub-grant the funding to DCNR. Now that we understand this opportunity, we will ensure the proper mechanisms are in place for next year. I've already asked our budget staff to include a line item revenue stream

specifically for EPA to allow us to apply for additional funding in future years if opportunities emerge. We would welcome the chance to apply for funding on a regular basis.

Our staff has invested time and built relationships with many partners who would use this funding to plant buffers in Spring 2020 and Fall 2020. While DCNR is currently providing multi-year grants to partners, and USDA programs also fund buffers, this EPA funding will allow us to plant trees quickly. This flexible approach complements these other programs by providing additional tools to on-the-ground partners, and fills gaps where they fall short. Our goal is to have a menu of funding options for partners and landowners to begin to scaling-up implementation.

Please let me know if you have any questions, and thanks for your support.

Cindy

Cindy Adams Dunn

Secretary

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

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